IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION ATTORNEY DKT No: 5233.012.NPUS01

OF: GARNER CONFIRMATION NO.: 5155

SERIAL NO. 10/711,156 GROUP ART UNIT: 1634

FILED: AUGUST 27, 2004 EXAMINER: SHAW, AMANDA MARIE

TITLE: METHODS FOR DETECTING AND QUANTIFYING

SPECIFIC MICROORGANISMS

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Sir,

In response to the non-final office action mailed on April 13, 2006, please enter the following amendments to the claims, and reconsider the application in view of these amendments and Applicant's remarks below.

- (1) Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing which begins on page 2 of this paper.
- (2) Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.